

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:  
Michihiko SASAKI

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

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For: STRING-INSTRUMENT TYPE ELECTRONIC  
MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

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Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant submits for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.
- ☐ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

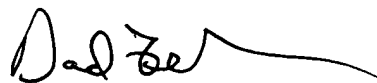
Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Director to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 393032044000. However, the Director is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: March 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number 393032044000	Application Number Not yet Assigned
	Applicant  Michihiko SASAKI	
	Filing Date Concurrently herewith	Group Art Unit Not yet assigned
	Mailing Date March 16, 2004	

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	1.	04/01/2003	6,541,688	Y. Asahi			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO
	2.	10/04/2002	2002-287742	Japan			Abstract

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

*(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title

EXAMINER:

1DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.